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## BOOK REVIEWS.

Contracts in Engineering.—By James Irwin Tucker, B.S., LL.B.; Member of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers and Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering at Tufts College. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1910, pp. xii, 307.

For many years the leading schools of engineering have included in their curricula of study the subject of engineering contracts, that the student might better qualify himself for his chosen profession. The object of the author in preparing this work is best stated in his own words: "An endeavor has been made in the present work to supply a practical course showing the contractual basis of engineering work and of business at large. The object has been to provide a text-book suitable in form and subject matter for use in Engineering Schools. \* \* \* In preparing these outlines of contract law, a twofold purpose has been kept in view: First, to make matter and statements such as would be readily intelligible to the average college student who has no opportunity for extended study of legal principles; Second, to present such facts and rules as seem likely to be of most value to him in his future professional and business career."

The object of the author has been attained with a considerable degree of success. He has also included in the book several chapters on corporations, agency, torts and real property. For this reason, perhaps the title of the book is too restrictive, but it matters not. The profession of engineering has so grown in importance during the past twenty years, and the engineer is called upon to carry out undertakings of such magnitude that he cannot hope for success without first having acquired a knowledge of the fundamental principles of contracts, torts and property rights. Professor Tucker's work will be a great assistance to the student to this end. The book concludes with a chapter of practical value on engineering contract writing and specifications.

J. C. K.

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS.—A Study of Questioned Documents with an Outline of Methods by which the Facts may be Discovered and Shown.

By Albert S. Osborn. Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Company,
Rochester, N. Y., 1910, pp. xxiv, 501.

Were the book not worthy in itself, an "introduction" by one so well known for his careful and exhaustive work in the law of evidence as Professor Wigmore, would challenge our attention to it.

The work is in no sense a "law-book" but in a very real sense a book for lawyers whose work, as that of most trial lawyers occasionally does, brings them in contact with questions as to the genuineness of hand-writing. The author disclaims in the outset any attempt at a legal treatise though he does incidentally accept an opportunity to criticize the reasonableness, or